

What is claimed is:

1. An attachment system for attaching an abrasive article to a sanding tool, said attachment system comprising a first major surface including an attachment region  
5 with attachment material for attachment with an associated mating surface, and a non-attachment region along at least a portion of an edge of said first major surface for forming an attachment with the associated mating surface that is weaker than the attachment between the attachment region and the associated mating surface, whereby a user can grasp a portion of the abrasive article adjacent the non-attachment region  
10 and thereby separate the abrasive article from the first major surface.
2. An attachment system as defined in claim 1, wherein said attachment system comprises a first major surface of a conversion pad, said conversion pad having a second major surface opposite said first major surface adapted to engage the sanding  
15 tool.
3. An attachment system as defined in claim 2, wherein said associated mating surface comprises a first major surface of the abrasive article, said abrasive article having a second major surface opposite said first major surface including abrasive for  
20 abrading a work surface.
4. An attachment system as defined in claim 3, wherein said non-attachment region comprises a continuous edge region extending around the entire perimeter of said first major surface.  
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5. An attachment system as defined in claim 4, wherein said attachment surface comprises a plurality of mechanical fastening elements.

6. An attachment system as defined in claim 5, wherein said mechanical fastening elements comprises hook-type fastening elements.
7. An attachment system as defined in claim 4, wherein said first major surface is circular and said non-attachment region comprises an annular region extending around the entire perimeter of said first major surface.
8. An attachment system as defined in claim 2, wherein said non-attachment region includes fastening elements that have been altered to inhibit attachment of said fastening elements with said associated mating surface.
9. An attachment system as defined in claim 8, wherein said fastening elements have been bent to prevent attachment of the fastening elements with said associated mating surface.
10. An attachment system as defined in claim 8, wherein said non-attachment region includes a coating material applied to said fastening elements to inhibit attachment of the fastening elements with an associated mating surface.
11. An attachment system as defined in claim 10, wherein said coating material is a sheet of material applied to the terminal ends of said fastening elements, thereby covering said fastening elements and preventing said fastening elements from attaching to an associated attachment surface.
12. An attachment system as defined in claim 10, wherein said coating material is a hardenable liquid applied to fill the open space around said fastening elements, thereby preventing said fastening elements from attaching to an associated attachment surface.

13. An attachment system as defined in claim 2, wherein said non-attachment region is free of attachment material.
14. An attachment system as defined in claim 2, wherein said attachment region  
5 and said non-attachment region are co-planar.
15. An attachment system as defined in claim 2, wherein the conversion pad and the abrasive article have substantially the same profile and have aligned outer edges.
- 10 16. A conversion pad as defined in claim 2, wherein said attachment material comprises adhesive.
17. An attachment system as defined in claim 1, wherein said attachment system comprises a major surface of the abrasive article, said abrasive article having a second  
15 major surface opposite said first major surface including abrasive for abrading a work surface.
18. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said associated mating surface comprises a surface of at least one of a conversion pad, a back-up pad, and a  
20 block sander.
19. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said non-attachment region comprises a continuous edge region extending around the entire perimeter of said first major surface.  
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20. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said attachment surface comprises a loop-type fabric material adapted to mate with an associated mating surface comprising a hoop-type fastening elements.

21. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said first major surface is circular and said non-attachment region comprises an annular region extending around the entire perimeter of said first major surface.
- 5 22. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said non-attachment region includes attachment material that has been altered to inhibit attachment of the abrasive article with said associated mating surface.
- 10 23. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said non-attachment region includes a coating material applied to said attachment material to inhibit attachment of attachment material with said associated mating surface.
- 15 24. An attachment system as defined in claim 23, wherein said coating material is sheet material applied over said attachment material, thereby covering the attachment material and preventing said attachment material from attaching to said associated attachment surface.
- 20 25. An attachment system as defined in claim 23, wherein said coating material is a hardenable liquid applied to said attachment material, thereby preventing said fastening elements from attaching to said associated attachment surface.
26. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said non-attachment region is free of attachment material.
- 25 27. An attachment system as defined in claim 17, wherein said attachment material comprises adhesive.
28. A conversion pad for attaching an abrasive article to a back-up pad, said conversion pad comprising a pad having first and second opposed major surfaces, said

first major surface being adapted for engagement with the back-up pad and said second major surface including an attachment surface including attachment material for attaching said conversion pad with the abrasive article and a non-attachment surface along at least a portion of an edge region of said second surface, thereby to allow a user to grasp the abrasive article and separate the abrasive article from the conversion pad.

29. A conversion pad as defined in claim 28, wherein said non-attachment region comprises a continuous edge region extending along the entire perimeter of said second surface.

30. A conversion pad as defined in claim 28, wherein said attachment surface comprises a plurality of mechanical fastening elements.

31. A conversion pad as defined in claim 30, wherein said mechanical fastening elements comprises hook-type fastening elements.

32. A conversion pad as defined in claim 31, wherein said conversion pad is circular and said non-attachment region comprises an annular region extending along the entire perimeter of said second surface.

33. A conversion pad as defined in claim 32, wherein said non-attachment region includes fastening elements that have been altered to inhibit attachment of the conversion pad with the abrasive pad.

34. A conversion pad as defined in claim 33, wherein the conversion pad and the abrasive article have substantially the same profile and have aligned outer edges.

35. An abrasive article for attachment to a conversion pad, said abrasive article comprising a backing having first and second opposed major surfaces, said first major surface including abrasive for abrading a work surface and said second major surface including an attachment surface including attachment material for attaching said  
5 abrasive article with the conversion pad and a non-attachment surface along at least a portion of an edge region of said second surface, thereby to allow a user to grasp the abrasive article and thereby separate the abrasive article from the conversion pad.
36. An abrasive article as defined in claim 35, wherein said attachment material  
10 comprises a loop fabric material.
37. An abrading tool including a back-up pad, a conversion pad connected with the back-up pad, and an abrasive article connected with the conversion pad, wherein the conversion pad comprises a pad having first and second opposed major surfaces, said  
15 first major surface including abrasive for abrading a work surface and said second major surface including an attachment surface including attachment material for attaching said conversion pad with the abrasive article and a non-attachment surface along at least a portion of an edge region of said second surface, thereby to allow a user to grasp the abrasive article and thereby separate the abrasive article from the  
20 conversion pad.
38. An abrading tool as defined in claim 37, wherein the abrading tool is an edger sander.
- 25 39. An abrading tool as defined in claim 37, wherein the conversion pad and the abrasive article have substantially the same profile and have aligned outer edges.
40. The combination of a conversion pad and an abrasive article, said conversion pad and abrasive article including mating surfaces defining an attachment area and

non-mating surfaces defining a non-attachment area, said non-attachment region being provided along at least a portion of an adjacent edge region between the conversion pad and the abrasive article, thereby to allow a user to grasp the abrasive article and separate the abrasive article from the conversion pad.

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